WELLS FARGO TO MAKE \$10,000 DONATION TO CITY MANAGER'S CORPORATE CHALLENGE PROGRAM FOR FIGHTING BACK PARTNERSHIP

VALLEJO – Wells Fargo Bank has announced it will make a \$10,000 donation to the City Manager's Corporate Challenge Program on behalf of Fighting Back Partnership.

Faced with budget cuts for Fiscal Year 2003-2004, City Manager David Martinez pledged to try to raise \$90,000 through the Corporate Challenge Program.

"We're pleased and excited that Wells Fargo has offered to make this donation,"

Martinez said. "It truly shows their commitment to this community. I want to personally thank them for this generous donation."

The City of Vallejo's Fighting Back Partnership has been in existence for over 11 years. In that time FBP has helped countless individuals overcome addictions to alcohol and drugs while at the same time helping revitalize run-down neighborhoods.

FBP was originally funded by a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. However, that grant has expired and, in order for Fighting Back Partnership to continue to serve Vallejo and its residents, community support is needed.

The City of Vallejo, in its 2003-2004 Budget, is providing \$90,000 to FBP and is asking business members of the community to help us collect enough funds to match the \$90,000 being provided by the City for a total of \$180,000.

"In order to help mitigate the state budget cuts, local government needs to be more entrepreneurial," Martinez said. "Hopefully we are creating a new era of partnership between the private sector and local government."

Other businesses that have made donations to the challenge include Triad Communities, Mandarich Developments, developer Terry Teeple, BP Solar, MV Transportation, and others.

"As part of the community, we want to do what we can to help out vital agencies such as Fighting Back Partnership," said Jamie McCullough, branch manager and vice president of Wells Fargo. "I like having the opportunity to help out the community. It's one of the truly rewarding parts of my job."